Application No.: 10/550993 Case No.: 58488US004

## Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## Listing of Claims

- (Currently Amended) A method for processing data regarding a dental prosthesis, the method comprising the steps of:
  - a) providing input data which represent a three-dimensional surface of a tooth stump prepared for a prosthesis;
  - providing stability requirements for the prosthesis, wherein the stability requirements include a minimum required thickness of the prosthesis,
  - generating control data from said input data, said control data representing a control surface which meets the stability requirements,
  - d) generating design data which represent the three-dimensional shape of the prosthesis,
     and
  - e) displaying the shape of the prosthesis together with the control surface on a monitor; wherein the displayed control surface provides a visual representation of the minimum required thickness, the design data are modified by a user based on a visual comparison of the displayed design data and the displayed control surface in order to meet the stability requirements; and

the design of the prosthesis corresponding to the modified design data is displayed on the monitor together with the control surface.

- (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein in step d) the design data are generated from the input data.
- (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein an outer surface of the
  prosthesis is scaled differently in at least two spatial axes such that a given preparation
  margin remains thereby unchanged.

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 (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the control surface meets the minimum stability requirements for the prosthesis.

## 5. (Cancelled)

- (Currently Amended) A data processing system comprising:
  - a) an input device for data regarding a three dimensional surface of a tooth stump prepared for a dental prosthesis;
  - a central unit connected to the input device and running a program for processing the data according to a method comprising the steps of:
    - providing input data which represent a three-dimensional surface of a tooth stump prepared for a prosthesis,
    - ii) providing stability requirements for the prosthesis, wherein the stability requirements include a minimum required thickness of the prosthesis,
    - generating control data from said input data, said control data representing a control surface which meets the stability requirements,
    - [[ii]]iv) generating design data which represent the three-dimensional shape of the prosthesis, and
    - [[i]]v) displaying the shape of the prosthesis together with the control surface on a monitor;

wherein the displayed control surface provides a visual representation of the minimum required thickness, the design data are modified by a user based on a visual comparison of the displayed design data and the displayed control surface in order to meet the stability requirements; and

the design of the prosthesis corresponding to the modified design data is displayed on the monitor together with the control surface; and

 a display device connected to the central unit for the design of the prosthesis and the control surface

## 7-12 (Cancelled)